

The Times.

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READY FOR OPENING.

MR. CLEVELAND WILL START THE BIG EXPOSITION TO-DAY.

He WILL Only Have to Press the Button and the Great Mass of Machinery Will Move.—The Crowd Arriving.

ATLANTA, GA., Sept. 17.—Everything is in readiness for the opening of the Cotton States and International Exposition to-morrow. Great crowds are in the city, and four thousand men are at work on the Exposition Grounds.

The opening ceremonies will occur at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. The military procession forms at 12 o'clock, and there will be two thousand uniformed men in line. The city is in a gale attire, and the principal buildings are gorgeously decorated. Military companies from all parts of the South are arriving, and the Washington Artillery, of New Orleans, reached here to-day under command of Lieutenant John H. Richardson.

General Schofield will arrive Wednesday from Cincinnati and address the army of Cumberland's reunion Wednesday evening. The actual dedication of Chickamauga Park is to occur Thursday. The centre of attraction will be upon Shookridge L. M., where the heaviest fighting of the celebrated battle took place.

Governor Greenhalge, of Massachusetts, will turn the electric button which starts the machinery of the Exposition, and October 18 has been fixed as the day for his visit to Atlanta. Everything is in readiness for to-morrow's exercises, and the Exposition exhibits are nearly all in place. The whole work will be completed in a few days.

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The advance crowd of fifteen or twenty thousand people, who came in to-day did not make the city uncomfortably full, but a great crush is expected to-morrow, when a larger crowd will come in on the morning trains.

NEWSPAPER CORRESPONDENTS.

The city is full of newspaper men, many of them being from New York, who were correspondents of the New York World, City Editor Sherman, of the Chicago Tribune, with a staff of five, several members of the Inter-Ocean staff, representatives from the Times-Herald, of Chicago, representatives of the New York Herald, and correspondents from scores of papers in other cities, of this and other countries.

The early gathering of these representatives of the press indicates an amount of interest being taken in the Fair. Half a dozen Governors will attend the opening with their staffs, and the Commissioners of a number of States are on the grounds.

Representatives of several foreign countries are here and the French Government has sent its consul from New Orleans to make a report on the Exposition. The Exposition grounds is a scene of tremendous activity.

The insightfully avenues and walks have been covered with a paving of crushed blue limestone, which harmonizes with the green of the grass and evergreens.

CLAD IN A FERNS.

The high columns and statues erected within the past few days give the grounds a classic appearance, greatly heightened by the architecture of the Fine Arts Building, a beautiful specimen of the Italian Renaissance, which crowns the heights of the terrace overlooking the whole park.

The crowds during the past week at the opening exercises to-morrow will be far above expectations. Heretofore the work on exhibits that for the past two days admissions have been stopped, except to those holding passes, and money was refused at the gates from thousands of people, who were eager to get in.

Ex-Governor Northern, of Georgia, says:

"The coming of so large a number of people from the States north of us will furnish an opportunity for better acquaintance and through this means the warm-hearted hospitality of the people of the South will be appreciated by all who are here. This is the reason why it is necessary that we be accommodated in a manner that will be understood, must be personally known, and in this way the great masses of the people of the two sections will be brought into a common union, without distinction, and without differences of feeling or purpose. This similar feeling of union of purpose will necessarily evidence a union of interest, and through this must come the development of the South, with its general resources for the benefit of the thrifty people of the North."

Secretary Herbert, of the Navy, says:

"Atlanta deserves great credit for the zeal, energy, and perseverance she has put into this enterprise, which must prove of great benefit, not only to Georgia, but to the whole of the South."

The South has entered into this Exposition in a spirit which insures the success forth in a most advantageous and attractive way the wonderful resources of this section of our country, which possesses, with its mild climate, its fertile soil, its unlimited stores of coal and iron, and its great forests, the capacity of supporting a population as dense as that of Belgium."

Ex-Senator Walsh says:

"I could not begin to estimate the advantages that will be conferred upon the South as the result of the Atlanta Exposition, which is certain to portray in the most extensive and potential manner the varied bounties in the way of natural products with which the South is blessed."

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To-morrow the progress of the show will be far beyond the expectations of a week ago. The usual long line of carriages and the usual groups of men in uniform, with the members of their staffs, will parade to the grounds from the centre of the city.

The committee will be in carriages, together with the directors of the Exposition.

The procession will start from the city about 1 o'clock, and will reach the Exposition grounds about 3, when speaking will begin.

Judge Emory Speer has prepared an elaborate oration, and President Collier a strong speech of about twenty minutes. One of the notable speeches of the day, it is said, will be given by a speaker whose address will be delivered by Booker T. Washington, the representative of the negro race on the programme, and the champion of industrial education among the negroes. His speech will be along a conservative line, urging the negroes to make friends of the white race, and to train themselves in technical education, as the best means of gaining property and acquiring independence.

A nipping ode, written for the occasion by Mr. Frank L. Stanton, of the Atlanta Constitution, will be read by Mr. Albert Howell, Jr., one of the most prominent attorneys at the Atlanta bar.

Among the many attractive features of the decoration of the city will be a tribute of flowers to the memory of Henry W. Grady. The Grady monument will be wreathed with flowers—a touch of beauty from the Grady Monument Association.

ANOTHER GREAT DAY.

Indications are that Saturday will be another big day in the history of the Exposition. The transportation facilities from Louisville to Knoxville and Chattanooga will be taxed to their utmost by the crowds that are coming down, and it is said that thirty or forty thousand veterans will come to Chickamauga Park, which is blue and gray at the Exposition, where they will be joined by the bands of combatants veterans, and the departments of the Exposition are working with tremendous energy, and barring some confusion attendant upon moving from the city to the offices on the grounds there is no friction. The public comfort department is working smoothly. Its agents meet all trains, one hour out of the city, with lists of the hotels and boarding houses and rooms for rent to place the visitors and check their baggage so that on arrival they have only to take a car or bus. This removes a great deal of confusion and embarrassment.

The bicycling is encouraged by the department of public comfort, and the city daily getting reports from every available room, the time occupied, and the time seated. In a word, the city is being run by the public comfort department, very much as a great hotel is done by the clerks.

This afternoon on almost every street you could see a bicycle messenger with a pencil in his mouth and book in his hand.

Visitors are amazed at the perfection with which this and other departments are being run, and they all unite in giving

Atlanta credit for the best management ever seen at an Exposition.

work of running a wire to Gray Gables, has been completed and everything is in readiness for starting the Atlanta Exposition to-morrow.

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